

THE 1969 COMICART CONVENTION

PROGRESS REPORT

A considerable amount of planning has gone into this year's convention, and we hope that this Progress Report shows it. Naturally, the planning will continue right up to the Convention itself -- we want to make it the best convention that's possible. But here's what we've come up with so far. First, a tentative program ...

FRIDAY, July 4th

- 9:00 am Registration begins; exhibits open
- 1:00 pm Panel: "Economics and Comics" moderated by Dick Giordano
- 3:00 pm "Comics -- In the Beginning" Vin Sullivan, guest speaker
- 5:00 pm Film Program
- 7:00 pm Auction
- 9:00 pm Panel: "The Comics Underground" moderated by Roger Brand

SATURDAY, July 5th

- 9:00 am Registration; exhibits open
- 1:00 pm Luncheon -- Harvey Kurtzman, Guest of Honor
- 5:00 pm Panel: "The EC Era" moderated by Rich Hauser
- 7:00 pm Auction
- 8:30 pm Costume Parade and Awards

SUNDAY, July 6th

- 9:00 am Registration; exhibits open
- 11:00 am Amateur Art Exhibit Awards
- 1:00 pm Warren Publications Awards, presented by Frank Frazetta
- 3:00 pm Auction
- 5:00 pm Close of Convention
- 7:00 pm Dealers dismantled and out



All events will take place in the Sky Top room. Dealers and exhibitions will be in the Penn Top room. It should be emphasized that the above program is tentative. For example, something may well be scheduled on Friday morning. A complete and detailed program will be available at the convention, of course.

At the time of this writing, formal invitations have not yet been extended to professionals in the comics field. However, we have heard from the following pros, who plan to be there: Neal Adams, Dick Giordano, Harvey Kurtzman, Gray Morrow, Jim Steranko, Vin Sullivan, Roy Thomas, Angelo Torres, and Al Williamson.

As for "The Comics Underground" panel, we expect a full compliment of New York underground artists, including Vaughn Bodé, Kim and Simon Deitch, Bhub Stewart, Trina Robbins, and Spain Rodríguez.

SPECIAL LUNCHEON

As we have previously announced, Harvey Kurtzman, creator of Two-Fisted Tales, Mad, "Annie Fanny," and other trend-setting cultural phenomena too numerous to mention, will be Guest of Honor at the Banquet Luncheon. The Luncheon promises to be one of the most worthwhile events of the Convention; ask someone who attended last year how he enjoyed it.

The Luncheon tickets are \$5.75 each, and are available now. The hotel requests that we sell all Luncheon tickets before Friday One PM, July 4th, so we ask that you buy yours now, and not try to wait until the last moment.

ART SHOW

We're pleased to be able to announce that the Exhibition Area will feature special exhibits of unpublished material by Gray Morrow, Jim Steranko and John Fantucchio.

AN AMATEUR ART EXHIBIT will also be featured. If you are interested in having your work on display, please inform Phil Seuling as soon as possible. There is no entrance fee, but entries are limited to two pieces per person. Naturally, we reserve the right to choose those items which will be exhibited, based on availability of space and suitability.

Professionals will judge the Amateur Art Exhibit, and Awards will be given on the last day of the convention.

PHOTOGRAPHS: All pictures were taken at the 1968 International Convention of Comic Art. Pg. 1: Members listen to Stan Lee's keynote speech. Pg. 3 top: Wally Wood relaxes with some convention members after the Editors Panel. bottom: Richard Sherry and Burne Hogarth. Pg. 5 top: Gil Kane and Leonard Starr. bottom: After his keynote address, Stan Lee talks with convention members and Marvel staffers John Verpoorten and Roy and Jean Thomas. Pg. 6 top: Wally Wood, Gil Kane, Roy Thomas and Dick Giordano talk together before beginning the Editors Panel. bottom: Arnold Drake and Neal Adams. Pg. 7: Milton Caniff in the Exhibit Room. Pg. 8 top: Will Eisner. bottom: Dan Adkins, Jim Steranko, Gray Morrow and Jeff Jones near the registration table.



FOR COLLECTORS

The Dealers Room will again occupy the largest portion of the Penn Top room, and will be open at all times throughout the convention. The Dealers Tables are now sold out!

The list of dealers who have reserved tables includes: Able-Man Books; Ed Aprill, Jr.; Alan Barbour; Robert Bell; Joel Frieman; Rich Hauser; H. Keller; Henry Kier; Dale Manesis; Passaic Books; Phil Seuling; Bill Thailing; Donald Vernon; Jerry Weist; and Witzend.

FILM PROGRAM

A film program will be held on Friday evening. Films will again be selected and presented by Chris Steinbrunner, a man eminently qualified for the job.

On the program will be a short film on comic artists and collectors Down Under, made for Australian TV. This film, being lent to the Convention by prominent Australian fan John Ryan, was promised for last year's Convention, but unfortunately could not be shown at that time. Better late than never, we say.

A special feature on the program will be Captain Celluloid versus the Film Pirates, complete in four chapters, by serial buffs Lou McMahon and Alan Barbour. Serials and comic oriented films of a more traditional nature will also be shown, not to mention other surprises.

COSTUME EVENT

SATURDAY EVENING, July 5th, there will be a Costume Event at 8:30 PM in the Skytop Ballroom. The event will be judged by guest professionals and there will be prizes for the first, second and third best costume. Every contestant will receive, as a souvenir of the event, a color photo of himself in costume.

RULES: 1. Costumes representing comic book, comic strip, or animated cartoon characters are eligible.

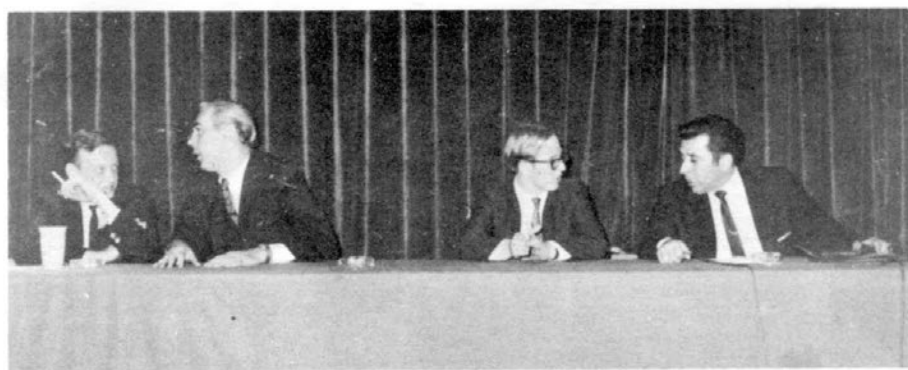
2. No professionally made costumes, please.

3. Costumes may be exhibited singly, or in groups (for example, several people may wish to come as the Marvel Family, or the Fantastic Four). However, any group wishing to present a rehearsed routine must consult the Costume Chairwoman before the event begins.

Last year's event brought out Captain Marvel, Jr., the Crimson Avenger, Lady Dorma, Iron Man, Blue Beetle, the Wizard, Barbarella, and others. Anyone who can't shout "Shazam!" or emerge from a phone booth fully costumed can write to the Costume Chairwoman for help, advice, instructions, and even patterns if possible. Your secret identity will not be revealed to the world at large until the night of the Costume Event. Get yourself busy, or get your mother, sister, or girlfriend busy on a costume now!

The Costume Chairwoman is Carole Seuling, 2883 West 12th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11224. Her phone is (212)-449-4181.





THE VITAL STATISTICS

MEMBERSHIP

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP is \$3.50, available in advance by mail, or at the door.

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP is available **FREE** to members who stay at the hotel during the Convention. If you plan to stay at the Statler-Hilton, fill in the attached coupon and check the Special Membership box. When you receive the Hotel Reservation Card, return it to the Convention, not to the hotel—the Convention will see that your reservations are made. If you register at the hotel at Convention time without advance reservations, you are still eligible for a Special Membership.

DAILY MEMBERSHIP is \$1.50 per day, available at the door only.

SUPPORTING (non-attending) **MEMBERSHIP** is \$1.00. Supporting Members will receive the Program Book by mail, as well as the Progress Report. A Supporting Membership may be converted to a Regular Membership at the door for an additional \$2.50.

All Regular, Special and Supporting Members who register in advance will receive the Progress Report when it comes out. Those who register before June 4th will be listed in order of registration in the Program Book.

HOTEL

Special room rates for members of the Comic Art Convention are \$15.00 per day for a single, \$21.00 a day for a double—none higher. These special rates are below the regular Statler-Hilton rates and will apply to your full stay whether it extends before or after the Convention. The fully air-conditioned Statler-Hilton Hotel is known as 'the most complete hotel' in New York City. It has over 2,000 rooms and is centrally located across from Pennsylvania Station and the new Madison Square Garden—a few blocks from the Empire State Building and New York's great department stores. It's also conveniently located on the IRT, BMT and IND subways, and is a single subway stop from the Port Authority Bus Terminal.

JULY 4th, 5th, and 6th, 1969
AT THE

PENN TOP/SKY TOP ROOMS
STATLER HILTON HOTEL
33RD STREET & 7TH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN

PHIL SEULING
2883 WEST 12TH STREET
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11224



